

Spring 2025

Substance Use and Suicide Prevention Newsletter

Missouri Suicide Prevention Conference Save the Date and Nominate

Save the date for the 2025 Missouri Suicide Prevention Conference scheduled for July 17 in Columbia. This free conference brings together suicide prevention professionals, coalition members, suicide loss survivors, community members, and people with lived experience. This year's event will have conference tracks that focus on specific areas of interest to help attendees make the most of the conference.

Each year, Missourians who are doing exceptional suicide prevention work in their community are recognized at the Missouri Suicide Prevention Conference. The Missouri Suicide Prevention Network is seeking nominations. The categories include Loss Survivor Award, Lived Experience Award, Suicide Prevention Innovation Award, Coalition of the Year Award, and Suicide Prevention in Schools Award. Nominations are due by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1. Learn more about the [awards](#).

Recap of the Missouri Substance Use Prevention Conference

The annual Missouri Substance Use Prevention Conference took place in November 2024 with 424 people in attendance, the largest turnout in the conference's history. This two-day event provided prevention professionals and others interested in prevention the opportunity to learn strategies, current trends in substance use prevention, and initiatives being conducted throughout the state. A prevention legacy award was given to Jeremy Barnes, the Prevention Director at Southeast Missouri State University's Prevention Resource Center.

Missouri's LifeLaunch

LifeLaunch is a website designed to help young adults navigate and thrive in adulthood. Young adults can learn wellness and life skills such as how to maintain a healthy online presence, how to advocate for their health, quick tips for home cleaning, and how to conduct banking. LifeLaunch can also be used by professionals who work with young adults. Learn more about Missouri's [LifeLaunch](#).

Join Community Conversations about Suicide Prevention

The Missouri Suicide Prevention Network (MSPN) is a group of individuals, organizations, and agencies who work together across the state to prevent suicide. MSPN hosts virtual community conversations that are open to the public. If you would like to connect with other Missourians who are concerned about suicide, consider attending a future Community Conversations about Suicide Prevention meeting. Attendees can expect to learn about suicide prevention initiatives, share resources, learn about MSPN, and collaborate with others to prevent suicide. These virtual meetings will be held from 9-10:30 a.m. on April 18, July 18, and October 17. Learn more about the [Community Conversations about Suicide Prevention Meetings](#).

Missouri's School-Based Prevention Intervention and Resources Initiative (SPIRIT)

Missouri's SPIRIT is a school-based prevention program that aims to reduce the onset of substance use, improve school performance, and reduce violence. In order to achieve these goals, Prevention Resource Centers partner with select school districts to provide technical assistance needed to deliver evidence-based prevention programs such as Too Good for Drugs, Second Step, and Peacebuilders.

Learn more about the [SPIRIT program](#).

Currently, there are four Prevention Resource Centers who partner with school districts across the state of Missouri. In the 2023-2024 school year, 9,239 students participated in the program.

Learn more about the results of the [2023-2024 SPIRIT program](#).

Free Trainings

- [Missouri Ask. Listen. Refer.](#) offers free suicide prevention training.
- [HealthEKnowledge](#) offers free substance use prevention and suicide prevention trainings.
- The Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) Network provides free substance use prevention trainings. Learn more about [PTTC](#).
- Learn more about the [Prevention Resource Network](#) and view information about [upcoming trainings](#).

Missouri Partners in Prevention

Missouri Partners in Prevention (PIP) is a substance misuse prevention consortium for Missouri's higher education. This consortium includes public colleges, private colleges, and universities across the state. Members meet once a month for a training, networking, and have an opportunity to attend PIP's annual Meeting of the Minds Conference. PIP's areas of focus include the prevention of suicide, high risk behaviors, and underage drinking. PIP has an informative website for those who are interested in prevention. The website contains research and publications, trainings, a prevention toolbox, and information for members.

Learn more about [Missouri Partners in Prevention](#).

Save the Date

Alcohol Awareness Month

April 2025

[Alcohol Awareness Month Toolkit](#)

DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

April 26, 2025

[Find a location near you](#)

Safely dispose of prescription drugs all year long at a [permanent drop box](#).

Mental Health Awareness Month

May 2025

[Mental Health Awareness Month Toolkit](#)

National Prevention Week

May 11-17, 2025

[National Prevention Week Toolkit](#)

Missouri Suicide Prevention Conference

July 17, 2025

Holiday Inn and Expo Center, Columbia

CADCA Mid-Year Training Institute

July 20-24, 2025

Nashville, TN

International Overdose Awareness Day

August 31, 2025

Suicide Prevention Month

September 2025

Missouri Substance Use Prevention Conference

October 28-30, 2025

Holiday Inn and Expo Center, Columbia

988 Storefront

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Missouri is a free and confidential crisis hotline that is available 24/7. The hotline is available by phone, text, chat, or video phone. Prevention providers and other community members can order free 988 promotional items from the Missouri 988 storefront. The storefront has awareness items such as stickers, posters, yard signs, and other small items that help raise awareness of 988.

View the [988 Storefront](#).

